Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Elijah Dollar (Dollars) W17729 Rebecca fn34NC Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 3/8/10

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State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this 31st day of May A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before Justices of the Court of Pleas & Order Sessions for said County, now sitting, Elijah Dollar, resident of the County & State aforesaid, aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. -- That he entered into the service of the United States under the following named Officers, & served as herein stated. That he was drafted as a private in the County of Orange aforesaid for the term of five months, in the Militia service of NC; and his company was organized and the Town of Hillsboro, N. C. in the fall of the year 1778 or '79, as well as he recollects. His company Officers, were Captain William Jameson, Lieutenant Riley and Ensign Edward Harris – Field Officer Colonel Farmer or Palmer and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. He was marched by way of Guilford Court House, Salisbury, Charlotte & Camden, to Charleston in South Carolina. Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle], a Continental Officer, accompanied the North Carolina militia. In the neighborhood of Charleston, he assisted in building some breast works. Here he remained sometime. Thence he was marched to Savannah River, opposite to the town of Savannah. Here they were stationed some time. Thence he marched some higher up on the River Savannah, the name of the place he cannot recollect. Afterwards the American forces, to which he was attached, met the British at Bryar [sic, Briar] Creek, and were defeated. The declarant was before the battle stationed with the baggage of the Army, & was attending to that charge at the time of that engagement. He thinks that at the time of that battle, his tour of five months was very nearly expired. When the Americans were routed in that battle, the declarant made his way home as best he could & he is satisfied in his mind that his term of five months for which he was drafted, had expired before he reached home. In the winter of 1780 -- '81, the declarant was again drafted as a private into the militia in Orange County aforesaid, for the term of three months – and he was to join his Company at Hillsboro but was detained by waiting on his Brother Jonathan Dollar who had the small pox – so that he did not join the Army until he reached Salisbury. There he went into ranks, his Company officers were – his Captain's name he cannot great number, but he thinks his Colonel was Colonel Harrison.

From Salisbury he was marched to the Catawba River – the enemy was then on the South Bank of that River under Lord Cornwallis. The American forces were on this side of the River & the British on the other, sometime after applicant was marched thither, & before the British crossed to the North side & had an occasion with a portion of the American forces under General Davidson [William Lee Davidson], the declarant was marched to Torrence's [sic, Tarrant's or Torrance's] Tavern. At the time of that engagement, this declarant & about 400 of the Americans were stationed at Torrence's Tavern, as well as he remembers the same some 7 or 8 miles from the scene of action. Shortly after that battle, the British dragoons charged the Americans at Torrence's Tavern several times— and at the time of the second charge, the declarant was taken prisoner by the war. He was carried by them as a prisoner first

to Salisbury & there lodged in Jail –taken to Hillsboro & lodged in the Jail there, when Cornwallis occupied that Town – and thence conveyed to Guilford County in the neighborhood of the Battle ground of the Battle at Guilford – was there a prisoner when the Battle was fought – and conveyed by the British towards Cross Creek now called Fayetteville; and on the way, a little east of Pittsboro in Chatham County, N. C. the declarant made his escape from the enemy & returned home. He thinks that the term of three months had expired at the time of his escape, but cannot speak with certainty. The declarant was afterwards called on to assist in guarding the Town of Hillsboro & prisoners there confined, against the eruption of the Tories; & was engaged in this service three weeks. He was born in Dinwiddie County in the State of Virginia, in the year 1759, as he supposes. He hath no record of his age. He was removed from Virginia to Orange County in North Carolina, when a small boy – where he hath resided ever since. He hath no documentary evidence of his service. He expects to prove his service by his Brothers, Jonathan, William & James Dollar all of whom were in the revolutionary war – and by Benjamin Carroll. He hereby relinquishes every claim to an annuity or pension except the present – and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State snowfall as he hath no knowledge.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. S/ Elijah Dollar

The declarant states, that he hath ominously endeavored to procure the attendance of a Clergyman, to testify to his character; but had failed to do so.

Subscribed & sworn to.

S/ Elijah Dollar

S/ J. Taylor, Clk

[Frederic Moize and Elisha Chisenhall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

North Carolina, Orange County

Jonathan Dollar, William Dollar & James Dollar, personally appeared before me, one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid, and first being duly sworn according to law – maketh oath, that they are brothers of Elijah Dollar of the County & State aforesaid who is an applicant for a pension from the United States – and that they know that said Elijah was drafted into the Militia Service, and Army aforesaid, in time of the War of the Revolution, on two several occasions once for five months, & once for three months – that the first tour of duty was served in the South in the year 1778 or 1779, as they think, -- and that he was taken prisoner in the second Term of service which was in & during the winter & spring of 1781, by the British, in the Southwestern part of North Carolina, when the British were coming into the State under Lord Cornwallis – and that he was detained a prisoner until the British commenced their march from the Guilford Battle towards Wilmington, N. C., – when he escaped.

Subscribed & sworn to.

S/ William Dollar

S/ Jonathan Dollar, X his mark

S/ James Dollar, X his mark

State of North Carolina, Orange County

This day personally appeared Benjamin Carroll⁴ before me Thomas Clancy one of the Justices of the peace for said County and made oath that he was well acquainted with Elijah Dollar in the time of the War of the revolution that he was drafted to serve a three months tour of Duty with Captain Elliott's Company, he was drafted in Orange County, the troops with whom he served were commanded by General Davidson & Colonel Farmer he this affiant was in an engagement in company with said

3 James Dollar W25535

¹ Jonathan Dollar S9330

² FPA S8355

Benjamin Carroll W10587

Dollar, which took place with the British on the Catawba River in the Western part of the said State some time in the winter preceding the Battle of Guilford at which place said Dollar was taken prisoner by the enemy & Brought on to Hillsboro that he has been acquainted with said Dollar ever since that time & for many years before having been raised Boys together that he the said Dollar is now about 73 years old, and has always sustained a fair character.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 2nd May 1833. S/Thos. Clancy, JP

S/ Benjamin Carroll, X his mark

[On January 29, 1842, Rebecka Dollar, 81, filed in Orange County for a widow's pension stating that Elijah died in Orange County on June 9th, 1836; that she married him on January 10, 1776. Maiden name Rebecca Skid [?]. fn p. 14: Marriage bond January 9, 1776, given in Bute County, NC for the marriage of Elijah Dollar to Rebecca Skid: Elijah Dollar and Thomas Smith, bondsmen.]